No. 2234.25

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PHOTOGRAPHS

OF A

COLLECTION OF

FORMOSAN STAMPS

THE PROPERTY OF

J. N. LUFE.

ARRANGED AND MOUNTED BY

C. A. HOWES.

1901.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Boston Philatelic Society

June 20, 1901.

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FORMOSA.

灣臺, TAI-WAN.

"EARLY IN THE YEAR (1888) THE FORMOSAN GOVERNMENT INAUGURATED A POSTAL SERVICE, RESEMBLING THE WESTERN SYSTEM, FOR THE TRANSMISSION OF MAIL MATTER, BOTH PRIVATE AND OFFICIAL, TO ALL PARTS OF THE ISLAND. TWO SORTS OF STAMPS WERE PROVIDED, ONE FOR OFFICIAL MAIL MATTER, SUPPLIED FREE OF CHARGE, AND ONE FOR SALE TO THE PUBLIC.

"THE STAMPS ARE LOCALLY MADE, VERY ROUGHLY PRINTED, AND ARE ISSUED TO THE DIFFERENT POST OFFICES FROM THE CHIEF POST OFFICE IN TAIPEI IN SMALL BOOKS CONTAINING 100 STAMPS. THE "STUBS" OF THE STAMPS DISPOSED OF HAVE TO BE RETURNED TO THE CHIEF POST OFFICE. STAMPS ARE NOT SOLD PREVIOUS TO USE, AND ARE AFFIXED ONLY BY THE POST OFFICE, WHICH GIVES A RECEIPT FOR EVERY LETTER.

"THE MAILS ARE CARRIED BY COURIERS ON FOOT, AND DESPATCHED TWICE A DAY. THE MAIN ROADS ARE DIVIDED INTO STAGES OF ABOUT 30 MILES EACH. LETTERS ARE DELIVERED FROM THE STAGES BY POSTMEN." [FROM REPORTS OF CUSTOMS' COMMISSIONERS AT TAINAN AND TAMSUI, DATED 1889 & 1891.]

PUBLIC STAMP: 1888-95.

HEADING OF STAMP:—

郵政商票 = YÜ CHÊNG SHANG P'IAO

SIGNIFYING — "POSTAL MERCHANT TICKET"

RIGHT COLUMN:— 重 CHUNG = WEIGHT

兩 LIANG = "TAEL" OR OUNCE; 錢 CH'IEN = "MACE" OR $\frac{1}{10}$ OZ.

DATE COLUMN:—

光緒 — 年 — 月 — 日 — 時

KUANG-HSÜ — NIEN — YÜEH — JIH — SHIH

(THE EMPEROR) — YEAR — MONTH — DAY — HOUR

ADDRESS COLUMN:—

發遞 FA TI = SEND TO AND DELIVER (AT)

NUMBER COLUMN:—

字 TZÚ = CHARACTERS 號 HAO = WRITTEN

收錢 SHOU CH'IEN = RECEIVED "CASH"

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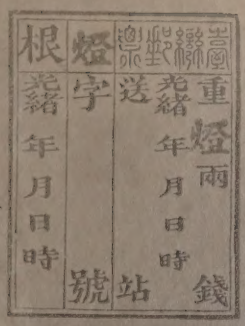
OFFICIAL STAMP: 1888–1895.



HEADING OF STAMP IN THE ANCIENT SEAL CHARACTER CORRESPONDING TO 臺灣郵票 "TAIWAN YÜ P'IAO" OR "FORMOSA POST TICKET."

RIGHT COLUMN: 重 CHUNG = WEIGHT.
兩 LIANG = CHINESE OUNCE; 錢 CH'IEN = $\frac{1}{10}$ OUNCE

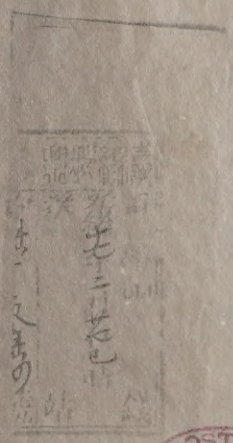
DATE COLUMNS:—
光緒 — 年 — 月 — 日 — 時
KUANG-HSÜ — NIEN — YÜEH — JIH — SHIH
(THE EMPEROR) — YEAR — MONTH — DAY — HOUR

ADDRESS COLUMN:—
送 SUNG = CARRY TO — 站 CHAN = POST STAGE

NUMBER COLUMN:—
字 TZŬ = CHARACTERS 號 HAO = WRITTEN

根 KÊN = BASE, DENOTING THE STUB OF THE STAMP — RETAINED BY THE POST-OFFICE.
燈 TÊNG, PROBABLY THE ABBREVIATED NAME OF THE POST-OFFICE ISSUING THE STAMP.

"THE STAMPS HAVE BLANK SPACES LEFT FOR THE DATE OF ISSUE, WEIGHT OF LETTER, NAME OF OFFICE ISSUING THE STAMP, AND NAME OF THE OFFICE TO WHICH IT IS TO BE FORWARDED, TO BE ENTERED IN WRITING." [CUSTOMS REPORT.]



CANCELLED COPY OF THE OFFICIAL STAMP SHOWING METHOD OF USE. THE STUB HAS BEEN SEPARATED FROM THE REST OF THE STAMP THROUGH THE MIDDLE OF THE NUMBER COLUMN.

AS OFFICIAL MATTER WAS CARRIED FREE NO WEIGHT HAS BEEN FILLED IN THAT COLUMN.

THE ADDRESS COLUMN IS NOT ALWAYS FILLED IN, AS HAPPENS IN THIS CASE.

THE DATE IS "KUANG HSÜ 17TH YEAR, 2D MONTH, 27TH DAY, 10 A.M." ABOUT THE MIDDLE OF APRIL 1891.

THE RED HAND-STAMPED CHARACTER 鳳 FÊNG, IS PROBABLY THE ABBREVIATION OF THE POST OFFICE OF FÊNG-SHAN 鳳山

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THE "HORSE AND DRAGON" STAMPS: 1888.

"IT IS TRUE THAT A SUPPLY OF FINELY ENGRAVED ADHESIVE STAMPS WAS OBTAINED FROM ENGLAND FOR THIS [NEW POSTAL] SERVICE, BUT IT WAS FOUND THAT THEY COULD NOT BE ADAPTED TO EXISTING REGULATIONS". THUS "THOUGH ORIGINALLY PRODUCED FOR POSTAL USES THE INTENTION WAS NEVER CARRIED OUT, SO THAT IT HAS BEEN IMPOSSIBLE TO OBTAIN SPECIMENS AUTHENTICATED BY A POSTMARK." [CUSTOMS AND CONSULAR REPORTS DATED 1889.]

OFFICIAL.

INSCRIPTION AT RIGHT (READ DOWN):
TA-CH'ING T'AI-WAN YÜ CHÊNG CHÜ
POST-OFFICE OF FORMOSA, CHINA.
INSCRIPTION AT LEFT:
CHIH CH'IEN ER SHIH WÊN
FIXED RATE 20 CASH.

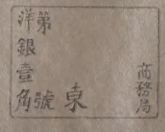
PUBLIC.

"THE LETTERS AND PARCELS ARE CONVEYED AT THE RATE OF 20 CASH PER TAEL [OUNCE] AND PER STAGE, WITH A SUPPLEMENTAL CHARGE FOR DELIVERY IN PLACES WHICH ARE OUT OF THE ORDINARY ROUTE." [OFFICIAL LETTER.]

"NO. 145"

SURCHARGED AS PER COPY:
—LEFT COLUMN: YANG YIN I CHIAO—FOREIGN SILVER 1 DIME; REPLACING OLD VALUE.
—AT RIGHT: SHANG WU CHÜ—MERCHANT BUSINESS OFFICE; REPLACING THE CHARACTERS YÜ CHÊNG CHÜ—POSTOFFICE.

"NO. 195"



第號 TI HAO = SERIAL NUMBER WRITTEN
[THE BLACK CHARACTERS ARE NUMBERS.]
西 HSI = WEST, OR 東 TUNG = EAST
MAKING TWO VARIETIES OF SURCHARGE.

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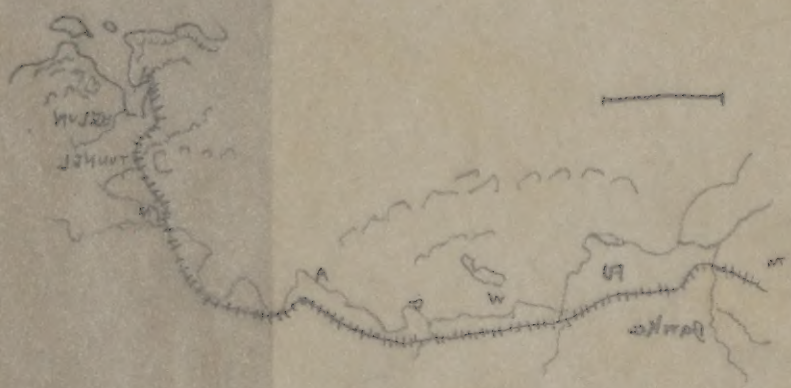
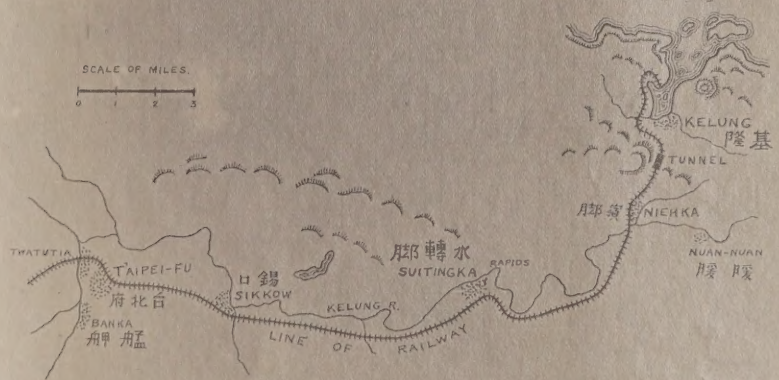


RAILWAY TICKETS: 1886-1889.

"A RAILWAY LINE CONNECTING TAIPEI [THE CAPITAL] WITH KELUNG WAS STARTED IN JUNE 1887, BUT PROGRESSED SLOWLY, AND BY THE END OF 1888 TRAINS WERE RUNNING FOR A DISTANCE OF ONLY 8 MILES FROM TAIPEI. FOR THIS, THE FIRST RAILWAY RIDE OBTAINABLE ON THE ISLAND, A RETURN FARE OF 10 CENTS WAS CHARGED; THE TICKETS IN USE AT FIRST WERE SOME POSTAGE STAMPS SENT OUT FROM ENGLAND FOR THE USE OF THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED GOVERNMENT POST-OFFICE, WHICH, BEING FOUND UNSUITED TO THAT PURPOSE, WERE DIVERTED TO THIS KINDRED BUT SOMEWHAT ANOMALOUS USE, A VICISSITUDE WHICH IS PERHAPS UNIQUE IN THE HISTORY OF POSTAGE STAMPS. IN THE FOLLOWING YEAR [1889] PROGRESS WAS EVEN SLOWER, AND AT ITS CLOSE THE LINE HAD BEEN COMPLETED AS FAR ONLY AS SUITINGKA, ABOUT HALF WAY TO KELUNG, FOUR TRAINS RUNNING DAILY EACH WAY." [REPORT OF CUSTOMS' COMMISSIONER AT TAMSUI, 1891.]



MAP OF THE FORMOSAN GOVERNMENT RAILWAY LINE

FROM THE CAPITAL, T'AIPEI-FU, TO THE PORT OF KELUNG.

SHOWING THE STATIONS BETWEEN WHICH THE SURCHARGED STAMPS WERE USED AS RAILWAY TICKETS.

FROM T'AIPEI TO SIKKOW IS 3 MILES.

FROM T'AIPEI TO SUITINGKA IS 11 MILES.

FROM T'AIPEI TO KELUNG IS 19 MILES.

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RAILWAY TICKETS: 1888-1889.

RED SURCHARGE:-

錫口五點

HSI-KOU WU TIEN

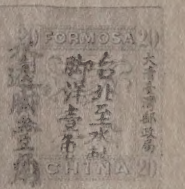
SIKKOW 5 CENTS

RED SURCHARGE:-

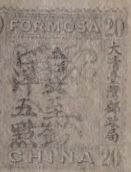
水邊腳壹角

SHUI-PIEN-CHIAO 1 CHIAO

SUITINGKA 1 DIME



-KOW	-KOU	台北至錫	T'AI-	T'AIPEI
FOREIGN	YANG	口洋五點	PEI	
5	WU		CHIH	TO
CENTS	TIEN		HSI-	SIK-



-KA	-CHIAO	台北至水車	T'AI-	T'AIPEI
FOREIGN	YANG	腳洋壹角	PEI	
1	1		CHIH	TO
DIME	CHIAO		SHUI-	SUITING-
			CHUAN-	

SIKKOW	HSI-	水車腳至	SHUI-	SUITING-
FOREIGN	KOU	錫口洋五點	CHUAN-	KA
5	YANG		CHIAO	
CENTS	WU		CHIH	TO
	TIEN			

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FORMOSAN REPUBLIC: 1895.

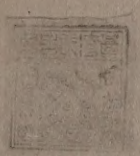
"As soon as it was known that the Treaty of Peace between China and Japan provided for the cession of Formosa to Japan, a rebellion was started in the North, and Formosa was declared a Republic on May 24, with T'ang Ching-sung, the former Governor, as President. The resistance in the North was soon overcome by the Japanese, but not so readily in the South, where Gen. Liu Yung-fu, formerly an Imperial Commissioner, held out for some months longer.

"Suspecting that information was being sent by post to the enemy, Gen. Liu decreed that no native letters should leave the island unless they bore stamps issued by his Government, and that all letters sent through the native post-office should be viséd at the Custom House before transmission to the mainland of China." [From Customs Reports & Hongkong Daily Press].

"The arms of the Republic of Formosa represented a tiger regardant, OR, on a field AZURE." [Customs Report].

First Issue, Sept. 1895.

叁拾錢
30 cash (3 cents)



伍拾錢
50 cash (5 cents)

壹佰錢
100 cash (10 cents)

Heading in the "seal character" corresponds to:
臺灣民主國
T'ai-wan min chu kuo
Formosan "people rulers land"

Inscription in left panel:
士担帛 = shih tan chih
official tax stamp

Second Issue, Sept.–Oct. 1895.

There appear to be two dies — noticeable particularly in the form of the "seal characters" and the central design.

100 cash (change of color)

B.P.L. Bindery,
NOV 11 1901